

The Definition Of The Word Church Pt7

Idolatry

EXODUS 20:3-5a

3. *Thou shalt have no other gods before me.* 4. *Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth:* 5a. *Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the LORD thy God am a jealous God,*

DEUTERONOMY 29:18-20

18. *Lest there should be among you man, or woman, or family, **or tribe**, whose heart turneth away this day from the LORD our God, to go and serve the gods of these nations; lest there should be among you a root that beareth gall and wormwood;* 19. *And it come to pass, when he heareth the words of this curse, that he bless himself in his heart, saying, I shall have peace, **though I walk in the imagination of mine heart**, to add drunkenness to thirst:* 20. *The LORD will not spare him, but then the anger of the LORD and his jealousy shall smoke against that man, and all the curses that are written in this book shall lie upon him, **and the LORD shall blot out his name from under heaven.***

JUDGES 17:1

1. *And there was a man of mount **Ephraim**, whose name was Micah.*

JUDGES 17:5

5. *And the man Micah had an house of gods, and made an ephod, and [teraphim], and consecrated one of his sons, who became his priest.*

HEBREW LEXICON - STRONG'S NUMBER 8655

traphiym {ter-aw-feme'}

1) idolatry, idols, image(s), teraphim, family idol 1a) a kind of idol used in household shrine/worship

GENESIS 31:19b *...and Rachel had stolen the [images] that were her father's.*

JUDGES 17:6-13

6. *In those days there was no king in Israel, but **every man did that which was right in his own eyes.*** 7. *And there was a young man out of Bethlehemjudah of the family of Judah, who was a Levite, and he sojourned there.* 8. *And the man departed out of the city from Bethlehemjudah to sojourn where he could find a place: and he came to mount Ephraim to the house of Micah, as he journeyed.* 9. *And Micah said unto him, Whence comest thou? And he said unto him, I am a Levite of Bethlehemjudah, and I go to sojourn where I may find a place.*

10. And Micah said unto him, Dwell with me, and be unto me a father and a priest, and I will give thee ten shekels of silver by the year, and a suit of apparel, and thy victuals. So the Levite went in. 11. And the Levite was content to dwell with the man; and the young man was unto him as one of his sons. 12. And Micah consecrated the Levite; and the young man became his priest, and was in the house of Micah. 13. Then said Micah, Now know I that the LORD will do me good, seeing I have a Levite to my priest.

JUDGES 18:1

1. In those days there was no king in Israel: and in those days the tribe of the Danites sought them an inheritance to dwell in; for unto that day all their inheritance had not fallen unto them among the tribes of Israel.

JUDGES 18:5-7

5. And they said unto him, Ask counsel, we pray thee, of God, that we may know whether our way which we go shall be prosperous. 6. And the priest said unto them, Go in peace: before the LORD is your way wherein ye go. 7. Then the five men departed, and came to Laish, and saw the people that were therein, how they dwelt careless, after the manner of the Zidonians, quiet and secure; and there was no magistrate in the land, that might put them to shame in any thing; and they were far from the Zidonians, and had no business with any man.

JUDGES 18:18-20

18. And these went into Micah's house, and fetched the carved image, the ephod, and the [teraphim], and the molten image. Then said the priest unto them, What do ye? 19. And they said unto him, Hold thy peace, lay thine hand upon thy mouth, and go with us, and be to us a father and a priest: is it better for thee to be a priest unto the house of one man, or that thou be a priest unto a tribe and a family in Israel? 20. And the priest's heart was glad, and he took the ephod, and the [teraphim], and the graven image, and went in the midst of the people.

JUDGES 18:30-31

30. And the children of Dan set up the graven image: and Jonathan, the son of Gershom, the son of Manasseh, he and his sons were priests to the tribe of Dan until the day of the captivity of the land. 31. And they set them up Micah's graven image, which he made, all the time that the house of God was in Shiloh.

I KINGS 12:25-31

25. Then Jeroboam built Shechem in mount Ephraim, and dwelt therein; and went out from thence, and built Penuel. 26. And Jeroboam said in his heart, Now shall the kingdom return to the house of David: 27. If this people go up to do sacrifice in the house of the LORD at Jerusalem, then shall the heart of this people turn again unto their lord, even unto Rehoboam

king of Judah, and they shall kill me, and go again to Rehoboam king of Judah. 28. Whereupon the king took counsel, and made **two calves of gold**, and said unto them, It is too much for you to go up to Jerusalem: behold thy gods, O Israel, which brought thee up out of the land of Egypt. 29. **And he set the one in Bethel, and the other put he in Dan.** 30. And this thing became a sin: for the people went to worship before the one, even unto Dan. 31. And he made an house of high places, and made priests of the lowest of the people, which were not of the sons of Levi.

I KINGS 13:1-6

1. And, behold, there came a man of God out of Judah by the word of the LORD unto Bethel: and Jeroboam stood by the altar to burn incense. 2. And he cried against the altar in the word of the LORD, and said, O altar, altar, thus saith the LORD; Behold, a child shall be born unto the house of David, Josiah by name; and upon thee shall he offer the priests of the high places that burn incense upon thee, and men's bones shall be burnt upon thee. 3. And he gave a sign the same day, saying, This is the sign which the LORD hath spoken; Behold, the altar shall be rent, and the ashes that are upon it shall be poured out. 4. And it came to pass, when king Jeroboam heard the saying of the man of God, which had cried against the altar in Bethel, that he put forth his hand from the altar, saying, Lay hold on him. And his hand, which he put forth against him, dried up, so that he could not pull it in again to him. 5. The altar also was rent, and the ashes poured out from the altar, according to the sign which the man of God had given by the word of the LORD. 6. And the king answered and said unto the man of God, Intreat now the face of the LORD thy God, and pray for me, that my hand may be restored me again. And the man of God besought the LORD, and the king's hand was restored him again, and became as it was before.

I KINGS 13:34

34. And this thing became sin unto the house of Jeroboam, even to cut it off, and to destroy it from off the face of the earth.

HOSEA 4:17 **Ephraim is joined to idols: let him alone.**

REVELATION 7:4-8

4. And I heard the number of them which were sealed: and there were sealed an hundred and forty and four thousand of all the tribes of the children of Israel. 5. Of the tribe of Juda were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Reuben were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Gad were sealed twelve thousand. 6. Of the tribe of Aser were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Nepthalim were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Manasses were sealed twelve thousand. 7. Of the tribe of Simeon were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Levi were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Issachar were sealed twelve thousand. 8. Of the tribe of Zabulon were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Joseph were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Benjamin were sealed twelve thousand.

CHURCH AGE BOOK Note particularly that **the punishment for idolatry was that the name of that tribe was to be blotted out 'from under heaven.'** Deuteronomy 29:20. It does not say that it would be blotted out '*in heaven,*' but from under heaven. And that is exactly as it is, for now Israel is back in Palestine, and soon the Lord will seal 144,000 of them. But from that number **Dan and Ephraim are missing.**

CHURCH AGE BOOK

However, after this period of tribulation, (**during the millennium,**) as seen by Ezekiel in 48:1-8, and 22-29 **we see the tribes back once more in Divine order.**

EZEKIEL 48:31-35

*31. And the gates of the city shall be after the names of the tribes of Israel: three gates northward; one gate of Reuben, one gate of Judah, one gate of Levi. 32. And at the east side four thousand and five hundred: and three gates; and one gate of Joseph, one gate of Benjamin, one gate of Dan. 33. And at the south side four thousand and five hundred measures: and three gates; one gate of Simeon, one gate of Issachar, one gate of Zebulun. 34. At the west side four thousand and five hundred, with their three gates; one gate of Gad, one gate of Asher, one gate of Naphtali. 35. It was round about eighteen thousand measures: and the name of the city from that day shall be, **The LORD is there.***

BE CERTAIN OF GOD [59-0125]

And one might ask me to retrace what I have just said, that it was a very likely picture of today. **We may not think that we are idol worshippers, but we are.** And the government endorses it. People today are idol worshippers, because they--they worship idols. Some of them worship movie stars for idols. Some worship money for idols. And some worship television stars as idols. But **all that you put before God is an idol,** let it be whatever it may be.

Even to Satan, our great adversary is such a smart one, until **he even puts sometimes the church before God.** You might have a great church. It may be a great building, or it may be a great denomination; and again, it may be a great congregation, **but let nothing come before God in your heart. Anything in--before God is an idol.**

I SAMUEL 15:22-23a

*22. And Samuel said, Hath the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, **to obey is better than sacrifice,** and to hearken than the fat of rams. 23a. **For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and [idolatry].***